



CITY OF TUCSON



Ready to Protect
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

Roberto A. Villaseñor
Chief of Police

Contact: Maria Hawke
Sergeant / Public Information Office
520-791-4852
On-call PIO: tucsonpdpio@gmail.com
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Date: 08/13/2012
TDD: 791-2639

MURDER-SUICIDE 300 BLOCK WEST ALTURAS

At approximately 11:27 a.m. on August 13, 2012, the Tucson Police Department received several 911 calls from citizens reporting that a shooting incident occurred in the 300 block of West Alturas. Officers from Operations Division West responded to the area, arriving within 1 minute of their initial dispatch. Upon arrival, officers located a deceased adult female and a deceased adult male in the roadway. The female was seated in the driver's seat of a vehicle that was stopped on the roadway, while the male was lying on the roadway next to the vehicle. There was also a handgun in plain view next to the male. Initial indications were that the male approached the driver's side of the vehicle and shot the female driver of the vehicle multiple times before turning the gun on himself.

Detectives from the Homicide Unit responded to the scene to continue the investigation. They determined that the female (**Maria Carolina Coleman-Velasco, 49-years old**) and male (**Julio Cesar Velasco, 59-years old**) were married, but estranged. On the morning of August 13, 2012, Mr. Velasco arrived at Mrs. Coleman-Velasco's place of business and waited for her to arrive. As she approached her workplace in her vehicle, he walked up to her car and fired a handgun directly at her as she was seated in the driver's seat. He then turned the gun on himself and fired it. At this time, investigators believe that the attack was unprovoked. Both were pronounced deceased at the scene. Next of kin have been notified.

####

Page 1 of 1

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

tucsonaz.gov